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25X1A
5 March 65

4 March 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Evaluation of [REDACTED] Multi-Format Interpretation Station 970-1.

STATINTL

1. On 14 January Messrs. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] and I inspected the Multi-Format Interpretation Station 970-1 while on a visit to the 544th ARTW, Offutt AFB, Omaha, Nebraska.

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2. The [REDACTED] Station is a desk sized, four transport light table with a traversing carriage on which an [REDACTED] Widespan Zoom Stereoscope is mounted. A motor driven transport system moves stereo pairs on the same or separate film rolls into position for viewing with the stereoscope. 25X1A

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3. The film drive operates smoothly and handles slow speeds up to approximately 300 feet per minute. A drop loop makes provision for viewing stereo images with up to 90 inches separation between stereo pairs.

4. This table can accommodate two 9½ inch rolls, or four 70mm or 5 inch rolls, or one 9½ inch and two 70mm or 5 inch rolls. Coverage from two missions can thus be compared.

5. Each eyepiece has a separate 4:1 zoom system and 360° image rotation. The magnification with 10X eyepieces ranges from 8X to 32X. In March 1964, when I inspected a prototype of the instrument equipped with the same optics, I obtained resolution readings of approximately 200 l/mm at 32X. The working distance for the optics is only .375 inches above the film plane and it is difficult to position the rhomboids to locate stereo images.

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6. [REDACTED] Chief of the Scanning Branch at the 544th, admitted that the table was difficult to get used to and a fairly long training period was required before P.I.'s were skilled in its operation so as to make it a time saving device.

7. The other persons accompanying me agreed that the low magnification range and limited resolution, in addition to the microscope's complex and awkward operation, make it unsuitable for our P.I. work. Therefore, it is recommended that no further action be taken on this instrument. STATINTL

Declass Review by NIMA / DoD

Development Branch, I & DS